The DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry

Annual Report to the Friends



July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

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Department of Psychiatry
Weill Cornell Medicine
525 East 68th Street, Box 140
New York, New York 10065-4897
Phone: (212) 746-3727
Facsimile: (212) 746-8886

http://psych-history.weill.cornell.edu

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DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry,
Weill Cornell Medicine, Department of Psychiatry.
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The front cover image (Henri Rousseau's *The Dream)* and internal images of couches, settees, and other recumbant funishings are taken from Nathan Kravis' *On the Couch: A Repressed History of the Analytic Couch from Plato to Freud* (MIT Press, 2017).
The photographs on page 6 of the title page of *Delle Origini Della Pazzia d'un Filosofo Fiorentino* and on page 7 of R.D. Laing's album, *Life Before Death,* were taken by Megan J. Wolff.
The photograph on page 49 is courtesy of Jack Barchas.

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Director's Report

This year was remarkable for a hive of activity that was made even more exciting by brilliant speakers, emerging scholars, and a vigorous engagement in public debate on pressing matters. Please dip into this Annual Report for evidence of that and more. It was a year of great growth, but it also marked the end of an era.

When famed Stanford and UCLA neuroscientist Jack Barchas travelled east to take over as Chair of Psychiatry at Cornell, a full quarter century ago, many of us held our breath. It was one of those times in psychiatry when some new finding could easily split our oft-divided field into competing camps. We had all heard rumors of new chairmen who dismissed established faculty like Caligula, or more kindly, like a general manager who quickly traded away his whole team. What would happen to our beloved department and our Institute?

The answer came quickly and repeatedly. This was a special leader, nothing like stereotypes from our imaginations. Some scientists, due to the nature of their work, must remain focused on the latest finding, the new bit of discovery that might help their push into the wild darkness of the mind/brain and its ills. We expected Jack to be like that, only forward looking, not terribly aware of how, as William Faulkner once put it, the past was not even past. However, this new arrival seemed to know far too much about the history of science, a matter his own father had passionately studied while building what became the Samuel Barchas History of Science Collection at Stanford. Furthermore, he was not only ecumenical about approaches to the mind and brain, he also was deeply informed about policy matters, and had played a significant role in a number of them at the Institute of Medicine in Washington. A blinkered lab grind? Quite the opposite. This was a voracious reader, a man with an appetite for ideas and analysis. We hit it off immediately.

Over the course of the next two and a half decades, Jack Barchas was an unwavering champion of the Institute and its very special role in American psychiatry. He was a tremendous mentor and guide to me; I have scoured my memory and may say without exaggeration that he never let me down. My personal appreciation is, I trust, clear from the speech I delivered at Jack's retirement ceremony (see page 48). But as a group, we all remain deeply indebted to him for the institution-building that he fostered during his wonderful tenure, acts like building a state of the art facility for the Diethelm Library and supporting book projects that might have seemed to some like Mars missions. We look forward to years more of his wisdom, wit, and guidance as he picks up his pen to consider the vast changes in our field that he witnessed and helped to effect. I am delighted to welcome Jack's successor, our new chairman Dr. Francis Lee, a man much in the Barchas mold. No surprise there, since Francis was lucky enough to have been mentored by Jack. With that support, he quickly rose to be one of the most exciting neuroscientists in the country. I am glad to be working alongside him.

From its inception, the Institute has been driven by a powerful and necessary but too often neglected idea, one that generates excitement thanks to its rare call for interdisciplinary crossings, for boldly bringing the sciences of mind and brain face to face with all the knowledge regarding human behavior, inner life, and society accumulated in the humanities. What field is more in need of such an approach? I cannot think of one. And so I would like to thank my devoted colleagues, whose work makes up most of this report. Kudos especially go out to Megan Wolff, Marisa Shaari, Orna Ophir, Katherine Dalsimer, Siri Hustvedt, and especially Nathan Kravis for leadership on particular areas of this multi-faceted agenda.

Finally, this Annual Report has been going out to the Friends of the Institute for many years, and you have responded with critical support for our on-going mission. This past year, one of our members, the extraordinary Dr. Samantha Boardman, an expert on the interface between positive psychology and psychiatry, energetically spread the word about the Institute to others whom she felt sure would have an interest in helping insure the future of the Institute. Toward that end, she and her husband, Aby Rosen, graciously opened their home to us, where to our delight, we found that she was quite right. My deep gratitude goes out to Samantha, Hamilton South, Bara Tisch, and Annelise Peterson Winter, as well as to a host of new benefactors who have recognized the import of this unique enterprise and seen fit to support it. Your encouragement and fellowship during this past year has been a special pleasure.

George J. Makari, M.D.



Jean-François de Troy, *The Reading from Molière*, c. 1730.

Oskar Diethelm Library

Librarian's Report

The Oskar Diethelm Library continues to be an international resource for scholars and students of psychiatry and related disciplines. Faculty, psychiatry residents, medical students and scholars from other institutions in the United States, Canada, and Europe took advantage of the unique scope of the Library's holdings during the 2017-2018 academic year.

Donations

The library added 185 books to its collection this year. Notable amongst these acquisitions is a group of books donated by Henry Nunberg, M.D., that had once belonged to his father, Dr. Herman Nunberg, a psychoanalyst who was a member of Dr. Sigmund Freud's inner circle. Some of the books are annotated or inscribed by the senior Dr. Nunberg, making them valuable resources for research.



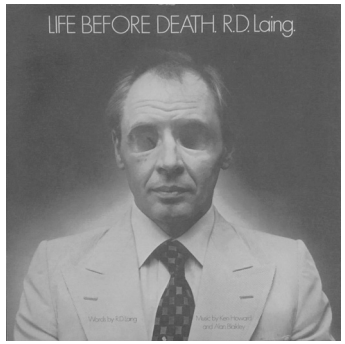
Our own Associate Director, Nathan Kravis, M.D., donated an important work in Italian about the origins of insanity. The book, *Delle Origini della Pazzia d'un Filosofo Fiorentino* [The Origins of Madness of a Florentine Philosopher], was written anonymously by Italian philosopher Francesco Maria Soldini, and was published in Florence. It has been dated to 1770. Several chapters address the subject of food and drink, and the effects of different types of food on mental health.

Doris Nagel, M.D., one of the longest serving members of the Institute for the History of Psychiatry, donated a collection of papers related to the history of the "Section" (as the Institute for the History of Psychiatry was known for many years). She also made a gift of a number of books and, for our collection of intriguing esoterica, a silver spoon from Fergus Falls State Hospital, Minnesota. Dr. Nagel's contributions are invaluable to our efforts to compile a collection of material that represents the history of the Institute.

We would also like to thank Mary Trudal, Abigail Zuger, M.D., Knuth Müller, Ph.D., Thomas Dodman, Ph.D., William Frosch, M.D., Theodore Shapiro M.D., Costa Constantine, Sylvia Karasu, M.D., and Marlin Mattson, M.D., for their own donations of books and other items of interest to the library.

Internships

We were very fortunate to host two graduate student interns in the Spring semester, 2018. Ursula Romero, a graduate student in library science at the Pratt Institute, cataloged a number of individual items into our collection database. These included a cabinet card of Nellie Bly, a journalist who feigned insanity in order to be admitted to a mental institution in 1887, and a group of photographs of Anna Freud dated to 1978. Ursula also undertook a project to organize and index the library's audio visual materials. These materials included audio cassette tapes, CDs, DVDs, floppy disks, vinyl records, U-matic tapes, VHS, Betamax, 16 mm film reels, and more. The items had not previously been cataloged and were unavailable to scholars. Some highlights include a DVD of "Classic Children's Group Therapy" from 1950, a vinyl record of R.D. Laing's 1978 album, *Life Before Death*, in which the psychiatrist performs his own sonnets and poems in collaboration with composers Ken Howard and Alan Blaikley. Also of great interest is the collection of interviews conducted by Dr. Peter Wilson with the faculty and staff of Payne Whitney, which were undertaken for his project on the history of the department.



Daniel O'Connor, a graduate student in the NYU Archives and Public History program, worked on a project to organize, re-house, and create a finding aid for the papers of psychoanalyst Peter Blos (as delineated below). Blos was one of the first child psychoanalysts and a leading authority on adolescence in the mid-20th century. Our holdings include three large boxes of papers, three smaller letter boxes of correspondence, and a photograph album.

In addition to their main projects, both Ursula and Dan assisted with scanning, copy requests, researcher inquiries, and other everyday tasks that came up in the library.

Newly Processed Archival Collection

The library is pleased to announce the availability of the papers of Peter Blos, Ph.D., (1904-1997), one of the central figures in child and adolescent analysis. Born in 1904 in Karlsruhe, Germany, Blos studied education at the University of Heidelberg and later obtained a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Vienna. While in Vienna, Blos made the acquaintance of Anna Freud, who requested his help in creating a school for children undergoing analysis. The project was supported and encouraged by Evan Rosenfeld, Dorothy Burlingham (a Tiffany heir and close friend of Anna Freud's), and August Aichhorn, an Austrian educator and psychoanalyst. Burlingham's children attended the school, along with children

of other individuals prominent in the psychoanalytic field. Blos recruited an old friend, Erik Homburger Erikson (later a leading figure in psychoanalysis), to join him. The Experimental School, as it was called, employed psychoanalytic principles and encouraged the children in independent thinking.

Blos emmigrated to the United States in 1934 to escape the rise of Nazism. He originally settled in New Orleans to teach at a private school, but soon continued on to New York to continue his psychoanalytic training. While in New York, Blos became involved in a major study on adolescence. He made connections with numerous luminaries during this time, and worked with anthropologist Margaret Mead, pediatrician Benjamin Spock, and psychoanalyst Erik Erikson. He published his first book, *The Adolescent Personality*, in 1941.

Over the course of his career, Blos taught at the Jewish Board of Guardians, the New York Psychoanalytic Society, and the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center. In 1961 he published his fourth book, *On Adolescence*, which brought him national and international recognition. Blos died in 1997 at his country home in Holderness, New Hampshire, at the age of 93.

The library's holdings of Blos' papers consist of correspondence, professional writing, drafts, notes, photographs, and other personal and professional materials dating from 1923-1997. The materials are primarily in English, but some letters, manuscripts, and notes are written in German and Swedish. The finding aid for the Peter Blos Papers is available on the Archives and Manuscripts Collections page of the Oskar Diethelm Library's website. (http://psych-history.weill.cornell.edu/osk_die_lib/holdings.html)

I encourage all our members and friends to visit the library, and utilize our rich material resources to further your research.

Marisa Shaari, MLIS



New York City Subway Posters, 1991.

The DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry

A History

The DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry is an interdisciplinary research unit in the Department of Psychiatry of the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University and New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Its mission is to support, carry out, and advise scholarship in a broad range of issues relevant to the present day theory and practice of psychiatry. Since its inception in 1958, the Institute has sought to use in-depth studies of the past to enhance understanding of the many complex matters that surround contemporary thinking and practice regarding mental health and illness. Over the last decades, Institute faculty have made critical contributions to debates surrounding matters like de-institutionalization, the history of the mind-brain problem, stereotyping, the scientific status of psychoanalysis, and the conceptual origins of different forms of mental illness.

Directed since 1996 by the scholar and psychiatrist Dr. George Makari, the Institute has branched out beyond history to foster studies at the interface of the "psy" sciences and the humanities, including explorations of the arts, medical ethics, and mental health policy. Thanks to Dr. Megan Wolff, the Institute has taken up the responsibility to create fact sheets to help inform public debate on the many pressing mental health issues that face us today, from the relationship of psychiatric illness to homelessness and gun violence, to the opiate crisis and the incarceration of the mentally ill.

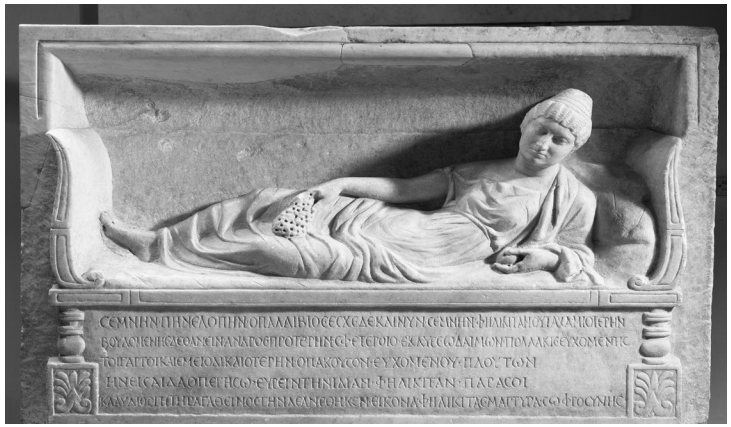
All of these scholarly efforts are deeply enriched by the Oskar Diethelm Library, under the stewardship of Marisa Shaari, MLIS. Started in 1936, the Diethelm is the library of record for American psychiatry, and one of the greatest such collections in the world. Its more than 30,000 volumes in Latin, English, German, French and more, commence with incunabula on witches and humours from the 15th century and end with yesterday's discovery on neurotransmitters. In addition to its unsurpassed collection of printed matter, the library is the repository of manuscript collections from critical individuals and numerous organizations. We are honored to host researchers from near and far who seek to extract the innumerable untold stories and lessons that lie in this treasure trove.

The Institute hosts the Richardson History of Psychiatry Research Seminar, the longest running colloquium of its type in the United States. It convenes working groups that bring together researchers in specific domains, a speaker series on Mental Health Policy, and various educational activities for students. With an open atmosphere that draws a mix of psychiatrists, psychologists, psychoanalysts,

historians, ethicists, literary critics, and others, the Institute hopes to bridge studies of the past with the science of the future, and connect the domains of science and the humanities, a necessity if our understanding of ourselves is to encompass our overwhelming mix of genes, neurons, brains, minds, selves, families, and societies.

The Institute's foundation was laid in 1936 with the arrival of Dr. Oskar Diethelm, a young protégé of psychiatrist Adolf Meyer, who shared his mentor's passionate interest in books and history. When he arrived at Payne Whitney, Diethelm noted that there were fewer than 100 books available at the clinic. As the newly-appointed Chair of the Department of Psychiatry, he presented the Board of Trustees with the argument that one could not practice psychiatry well without an appreciation for the history and the development of its theories and techniques. Persuaded, the Board allocated funds for the creation of an historical library within the psychiatric clinic. From early in his tenure, Diethelm made annual summer trips to Europe, where he surveyed the holdings of the chief university medical schools and libraries, and haunted used book stalls to replicate their collections. In France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Spain, he purchased texts to send back to Payne Whitney, which soon boasted a distinct collection of rare books and manuscripts. With holdings that included nearly all of the psychiatric classics and a growing collection of early doctoral dissertations, the Clinic's new library quickly became a formidable resource in the history of psychiatry, one of the only such repositories in the United States.

Oskar Diethelm brought more than an interest in books to the culture of the Payne Whitney Clinic. He also introduced a change in the way that scholars thought about medicine and history, one that had been sweeping across Europe



Funerary stele for Felicita, Roman, second or third century.

for decades. As the feverish pace of scientific discovery had begun to slow, medicine was becoming more self-reflective. Since 1900, new libraries, societies, and international congresses emerged across the Continent, and the creation of new journals and even professorships marked the maturation of the field. Development was somewhat slower in the United States, but when the first American Institute for the History of Medicine was founded at Johns Hopkins in 1929, Oskar Diethelm was present to witness it.

From 1925 to 1936, Diethelm studied under Adolf Meyer at the Phipps Clinic at Johns Hopkins. The two men shared much in common. Both were natives of Switzerland, and both possessed the hallmarks of European humanism: a sophisticated knowledge of intellectual history, a wide-ranging interest in politics, history, and culture, and a patrician reverence for books. In 1932, Henry Sigerist, another denizen of Switzerland and one of the brightest lights of medical history in Europe, assumed the directorship of the new medical history Institute at Hopkins. The historian's intellectual approach and methods fit neatly with those of Diethelm and Meyer, and his personal charm and acumen attracted numerous students. Sigerist believed fervently that medical history could serve as a bridge between science and the humanities, and that it could throw light on present practices. "History," he noted, "will make the modern physician aware that his medicine is not the product of recent decades but rather the result of a long and troubled development, and that our grains of truth emerged from a sea of errors, a sea we are still wading in." It was an attitude which set the tone for the discipline's development in the United States, and one that Diethelm would carry with him to Payne Whitney.

As Sigerist set about building up a new historical library at Hopkins, he turned for advice to his colleagues. Adolf Meyer possessed a personal library of psychiatric literature so extensive that he and his student were promptly called upon to help, and Oskar Diethelm found himself pressed into service purchasing and arranging the library's psychiatric section. He realized as he did so that no collection existed at any university or medical center that did justice to the history of psychiatry. It was a deficiency that he would work to remedy for the rest of his life.

Guided by Oskar Diethelm, by 1953 the historical collection at Payne Whitney had blossomed into an attractive, wood-lined library with rare books in glass-enclosed cases and an eager clientele. Interest in the history of medicine was growing nationwide, and in 1958, the National Institute for Mental Health announced a series of grants to support research in the field. Eric T. Carlson, a student of Oskar Diethelm's, successfully applied for one of these grants, obtaining the seed money that would formally launch the Section on the History of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences at Payne Whitney. The grant aimed to promote "the study of the development of psychiatric thought in America," and provided



J. Mayhew and W. Inc, settee, 1769.

enough funds for a researcher and for a part-time Section director. Diethelm appointed Carlson to the new Directorship, a position he would hold until his death 34 years later.

The History Section opened with a flurry of activity. After consulting with prominent Columbia historian Richard Hofstadter, Carlson took steps to create an atmosphere of interdisciplinary collaboration. With money obtained from an NIMH grant for the study of the development of psychiatric thought in America, Carlson recruited Norman Dain, one of Hofstadter's promising graduate students, as a research assistant. Based on a nucleus composed of Carlson, Dain, and the young psychiatrist Jacques Quen, the cluster of half a dozen scholars and researchers who gathered every other week soon grew to a body of regular seminar attendees. Their research projects developed into academic journal articles and a number of seminal books in the field. For Dr. Carlson, one of the primary goals of the section and its work was to connect isolated scholars. The seminar offered a venue for communication and collaboration. At the 1959 American Psychiatric Association meeting, attendees discussed founding a newsletter on psychiatric history. Soon thereafter, Carlson took on the project himself, launching the *History of the Behavioral Sciences Newsletter* in 1960. The newsletter was so successful that in 1965 it became the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, a peer-reviewed organ that thrives to this day.

When Dr. Diethelm retired in 1962, the rare books library was named in his honor. The collection had grown enormously. In addition to Diethelm's assemblage of British and American works from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, it now included items dating from the 15th century in Latin, French, German and Italian, and selected works in Arabic, Dutch, Hungarian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. It had begun to reach its founder's goal as the preeminent collection on the history of psychiatry.

To widen the library's circle of supporters, Dr. Carlson launched the "Friends of the Oskar Diethelm Historical Library" in 1964. The appeal prompted donors to establish a significant fund for the acquisition of manuscript and archival material two years later -- the first private gift of special funding. Carlson regarded the contribution as a milestone in the library's development, and in recognition he presented his own collection of manuscripts to the library. In the years that followed, acquisitions of unpublished materials gained momentum, and the library began receiving archival collections from bodies such as the American Foundation for Mental Hygiene, and from individuals such as Donald Winnicott, Herbert Spencer, Thomas Salmon, and S. Weir Mitchell. In 1966, the merger of the Westchester Division (formerly the Bloomingdale Asylum) and the Payne Whitney Clinic brought the historical books of the Division to the shelves of the Diethelm Library. Because the Bloomingdale library had been in operation since 1823, the accession made the Oskar Diethelm Historical Library the oldest collection of psychiatric literature in the country.

The decades that followed were enormously productive ones. Active participant Dr. Jacques Quen, who for years had mentored fellows, residents, and medical students with an interest in the history of psychiatry, became Associate Director in 1971. The following year, a grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation made possible a pair of dedicated lecture series, one on "The Historical Development of the Mind-Body Problem" and the other a two-year program on the work of Adolf Meyer. At the completion of the second series, the Director and Associate Director edited and published *American Psychoanalysis, Origins and Development: The Adolf Meyer Seminars.* In the meantime Norman Dain, who had cut his teeth studying with Ted Carlson, was becoming one of the most eminent historians of American psychiatry in the country, and in 1975 the Section honored him with a faculty appointment, making Dain the first historian in a Department of Psychiatry. He was joined in the distinction in 1978, when Sander



English Daybed, 1690-1710.

L. Gilman, then a prominent academic at Cornell's Ithaca campus, also received an appointment. Having arrived in 1977 for a sabbatical year with the Section, Dr. Gilman completed a landmark book on the history of psychiatry and visual imagery, and began research on the concept of degeneration, sexuality, and stereotyping, which would later be another hallmark of his scholarship.

In 1979, a move to larger and more attractive quarters on the ninth floor of the Payne Whitney Clinic further facilitated research activities. Further conferences, grants, and acquisitions continued to enhance the activities of the Section. A 1984 symposium held at Bear Mountain, NY, yielded a volume entitled *Split Minds/ Split Brains: Historical and Current Perspectives*, once again edited by Jacques Quen. In 1985, a gift from noted psychoanalyst and historian Mark Kanzer enabled the participation of a series of research fellows, who took up residence at the library while in pursuit of their doctorates. Dubbed the Carlson Predoctoral Fellowship, the funds supported the early work of sholars like Leonard Groopman, Daniel Burston, Jan Goldstein, and John Efron.

A series of challenges followed, which ultimately resulted in a number of new beginnings. The sudden death of Founding Director Eric Carlson in January, 1992, brought with it a period of loss and reorganization. Long-time participant Dr. Jacques Quen took charge as Acting Director and formalized a steering committee that Dr. Carlson had once created for the discussion of policy issues. The "policy group" had much to consider. A major modernization project at New York Hospital anticipated the tearing down of Payne Whitney in 1994. A new space would have to be planned for the Library and its associated programs, a new director appointed, and a new permanence sought. The death of Oskar Diethelm in 1993 provided further opportunity for taking stock, and so a site visit that year was initiated to consider the major questions about the Section's future.

In their report, evaluators Gert Brieger, Gerald Grob, and Stanley Jackson found that the past seminars and future potential of the Section and its now unrivaled library dwarfed the uncertainties of the present moment. Psychiatry, they noted, had much to gain from an understanding of its history, and they strongly recommended strengthening the Section's future.

Toward that end, a recent research fellow, Dr. George Makari, was appointed Acting Director tasked with strengthening the Section. A full-time librarian and archivist was hired for the first time. With the tearing down of Payne Whitney, the collection moved temporarily to quarters at the New York Academy of Medicine, where it took up a mile of borrowed shelf space. When the collection was finally settled at the Academy, the librarian worked to integrate and reorganize the papers, books, journals, and manuscripts. A grant obtained during this period allowed for the books to be computer cataloged and made available online,

a significant step toward modernization for the coming century. Invaluable and extremely rare books were discovered and entered into OCLC, the worldwide library database. Often they were the only such holdings in the nation. It became clear that the Oskar Diethelm Library was the finest such collection in the United States.

While the collection sojourned uptown, the Section on the History of Psychiatry continued its research seminars at Cornell Medical College. "As the History of Psychiatry Section became less a concrete place and more of an idea, our research and educational mission became more defined," remarked Dr. Makari. Benefactors Frank and Nancy Richardson agreed. In 1994, they created an endowment to support the now-renamed Richardson Seminars on the History of Psychiatry. A year later, funds raised in memory of Ted Carlson supported Dr. Makari's inauguration of the Eric T. Carlson Memorial Grand Rounds. First delivered by the eminent Roy Porter in 1995, the Carlson Lecture honors lifetime achievement and has now showcased the work of scholars such as Charles Rosenberg, Nancy Tomes, and Ian Hacking. In 1995, Dr. Makari and Professor Sander Gilman inaugurated a monograph series, the Cornell Studies in the History of Psychiatry. A year later, Dr. Makari was appointed Director of the Section, just in time to help with the planning for the new library space. When the collection moved into its new accommodations in the Baker Tower in 1999, it relocated into a centralized, state of the art facility, staffed with an archivist and a professional administrator, fully modernized for the first time.

Over the many years, the Section (once one of four research "sections" at Payne Whitney) had outgrown its name. To represent the full array of academic, scholarly, educational, and library activities, the Section was rechristened the Institute for the History of Psychiatry, and the magnified collection was renamed the Oskar Diethelm Library. The creation of a pair of Working Groups to study psychoanalytic history and representation in the arts expanded the range of events, and in 2003, to provide additional leadership in the face of so much activity, Nathan M. Kravis was appointed Associate Director of the Institute. The tradition of supporting research fellows was rejuvenated in 2008 with the establishment of the Benjamin Rush Scholars Program, which is open to psychiatry residents with an interest in the history of the field. The following year, in grateful recognition of longstanding support of The DeWitt Wallace Foundation, the Institute became The DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry.

The Institute continues to expand so as to fulfill its mission to bridge the past and the future, and cross from science to the humanities so as to better understand the mind, the brain, and the individual complexities that come with embodied psychic life. Its commitment to aiding the public dialogue on the many issues our society faces on matters of mental health and illness have led to public outreach and topical mental health policy forums, open to the public. The Diethelm Library's ever expanding wealth of archival material such as personal papers, institutional records, and ephemera continues to grow; it presently holds the archives of over sixteen organizations in American psychiatry, including the American Psychoanalytic Association, and can be considered the library of record for American behavioral science.

It can be argued that in the 21st century, the Institute for the History of Psychiatry has fulfilled Dr. Diethelm's dream. The Institute serves as an utterly unique academic center, an invaluable and irreplaceable resource for a world-wide network of researchers. It represents a unique forum for the crossing of disciplinary borders to deepen our understanding of what makes mental life and what determines its ills. Thanks to the efforts of its many supporters, the Institute today is a center for scholarly collaboration, research and the preservation of significant works, unrivaled by any other facility in the academic world.

Megan J. Wolff, Ph.D., MPH


February 2nd, 1901 THE LADIES' FIELD

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IS A DREAM OF COMFORT.

Regd. Design No. 2517.

THE "SPÉCIALITÉ CORSET" is manufactured under scientific supervision, the cut and make being perfect. Each bone is placed in the position requiring support, without impeding or checking the proper exercise of the muscles, allowing perfect freedom of action to the whole frame; all these advantages are obtained, with an additional elegance of form, as the illustration will show.

The "Spécialité Corset" is made of the best materials, and fitted throughout with REAL WHALEBONE (busks and side-steels excepted), best sewing and perfect finish. The quality of the "Spécialité Corset" will be found 25 per cent. better, at the price, than any other Corset offered to the public.

CAUTION.—The "SPÉCIALITÉ CORSET" is made only for us, and cannot be had Wholesale or Retail except through

THE NEW STRAIGHT-FRONTED "SPECIALITÉ CORSET" (*as illustration*), in White Coutille and real Whalebone, price 27/6; in Black Coutille, unlined, 29/6.

THE "SPÉCIALITÉ CORSET."—TYPE 1A.—Long waist, in Black Italian Cloth and Real Whalebone, 19/6 complete; in Black Satin, 27/6.

TYPE 1B.—Extra long waist, in Black Italian Cloth and Real Whalebone, 21/- complete; in Black Satin, 29/6.

TYPE 1C.—Long waist, cut longer below the waist, and extra fully boned to give greater support to stout figures, in Black or White, 25/- complete.

TYPE 2D.—Long waist, in White Coutille and Real Whalebone, 18/6.

TYPE 2E.—Extra long waist, 21/- complete.

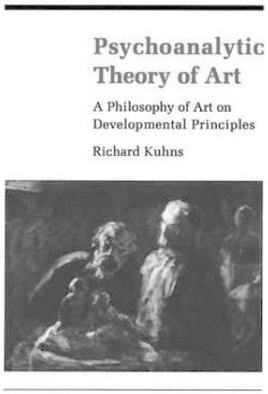
TYPE 2F.—Extra long waist, and cut longer below the waist to suit ladies requiring a high and deep make. In White Coutille and Real Whalebone, 25/- complete.

TYPE 3G.—Medium waist, in White Coutille and Real Whalebone, 16/6.

"The spécialité corset is a dream of comfort," 1901 advertisement.

Inside the Collection

Richard Kuhns, Psychoanalytic Theory of Art: a Philosophy of Art on Developmental Principles



From time to time one finds a substantial contribution to the theory of psychoanalysis from a scholar outside the profession. Such an instance is that of the late Columbia philosopher Richard Kuhns (1924-1996), whose treatise "Psychoanalytic Theory of Art" appeared in 1983 and remains a thoughtful scholarly essay on the integration of psychoanalytic ideas with cultural theory. (Note: his wife was a psychoanalytically-oriented therapist.) Essentially, in his view every artistic product (or "object") has both an individual and a social, as well as an immediate and historical, dimension. Each is an "enactment," susceptible to interpretation along both psychological and historical lines.

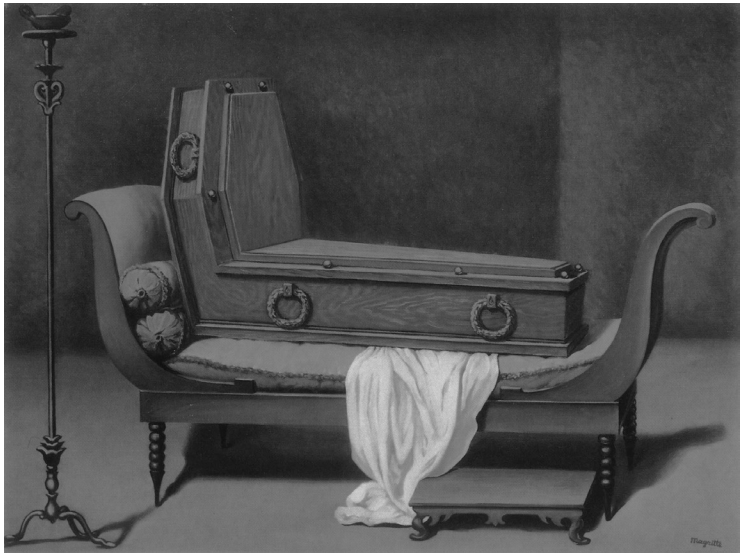
Kuhns founds his argument primarily on the classical Freudian texts, although he makes extensive use of both ego-psychology and certain elements of object-relations theory to elaborate his position. Freud, he suggests, formulated the rudiments of a theory of culture (particularly in "Totem and Taboo"), but failed to develop it systemically. His followers (Hartman, Kernberg, Winnicott), although they extended and deepened the understanding of the role of objects in development and experience, still failed to explore the influence of history and cultural tradition on the ways in which objects – or better, "enactments" – contribute to the evolution of the individual's psychological life.

In elaborative specific applications of his modified psychoanalytic theory, Kuhns argues for directing attention to the object itself rather than to the life of its creator. In illustration he analyzes one of Emily Dickinson's "volcano" poems, showing, without drawing on biographical material, how conflict themes can be elicited from text itself and, in particular, from its "stylistic" elements. Indeed, his principal aim appears to be the development, long sought by aestheticians and psychoanalytic students of art alike, of a "psychology of style." It is in style that primary and secondary process thoughts interact: "style is an ego-controlled organizing structure with roots deep in the unconscious, and it is through style that enactments are able to establish a tradition…" (p78). Style is the correlate in objects to what in persons we conceive as intentions. It is thus through the analysis of style that we can best understand works of art and their latent, as well as their manifest, meanings.

In his concluding summation, Kuhns associates himself with those philosophers and other humanists who sought to locate psychoanalysis within the family of the "human" rather than that of the "natural" sciences. He pleads for psychoanalytic students of culture to engage themselves with the "discoveries and methods of art history," since "art history has an important contribution to the theory of public life" (p.133).

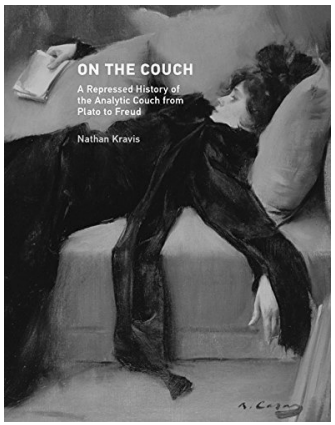
In essence, this book calls for a broadening and deepening of the psychoanalytic approach to works of art and for a creative synthesis of psychoanalytic and academic interpretive disciplines. Kuhns offers, I think, eloquent testimony to the potential value of a rapprochement between organized psychoanalysis and the academic community – a goal that still stands today.

Aaron H. Esman, M.D.



René Magritte, *Mme Récamier de David*, 1951.

On the Couch: An Interview with Nate Kravis



IHP Associate Director, Nathan Kravis, published a new book in September, 2017, entitled *On the Couch: A Repressed History of the Analytic Couch from Plato to Freud* (The MIT Press). The book examines the cultural history of reclining posture so as to gain insight into Freud's notorious configuration of seating. Why should the analyst sit in a chair out of sight, while the patient lies on a couch facing away? Using wide-ranging research, Kravis demonstrates that the arrangement has antecedents as far back as ancient Greece (where guests reclined on couches at the symposium) and at the Roman convivium (where men and women reclined together while banqueting). He draws on furniture history, early photography, and the histories of medicine, fashion, and interior decoration, to explain how the couch became associated with pleasure, privacy, transgression, and healing, at the same time that it grew into an icon of self-knowledge and self-reflection. The book's lively array of images traces the progress of this history across monuments, sculpture, paintings, photographs, illustrations, *New Yorker* cartoons, and advertisements. As a practicing psychoanalyst himself, Kravis notes that he finds "the dialogue between the rich iconography of the couch and its debated clinical utility endlessly captivating." Others do as well. The book recently received the 2018 Gradiva Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis (NAAP). Below are excerpts from a recent interview about *On the Couch* between Kravis and IHP Administrator, Megan Wolff.

Wolff: What inspired you to write a book about the psychoanalytic couch?

Kravis: Many years ago, the New York City subway was plastered with enormous couch posters. They bore the caption (some in English, others in Spanish), "Some people find the same peace of mind sitting in a pew. Come home at Easter. The Catholic Archdiocese of New York." Who, I wondered, comprised the target audience? And why was the Church so confident that subway riders would easily decode the image in front of them?

The couch is a cultural icon, a symbol of self-reflection and healing, a metonym for psychotherapy in cartoons and movies. This is true even as the popularity of psychoanalytic treatment wanes. We could say the couch is healthier than the practice of psychoanalysis itself.

As I thought about it more, it occurred to me that even some of the people most likely to "get" the reference – analysts themselves – are ambivalent about the couch, and even scoff at the tradition of patient recumbence. Some see it as a relic of a more authoritarian era, a power play on the part of the analyst that unnecessarily regresses or infantilizes the patient and supposedly blocks the path to authentic emotional engagement.

Wolff: What do you think about this outlook?

Kravis: I find such a priori assertions problematic. They're not based on any real knowledge. There's no evidentiary basis either for mandating or disparaging use of the couch. The research simply hasn't been done. We can't know in advance which patients will find the couch liberating, and which will find it too discomfiting.

Pondering the disjuncture -- the couch is an icon, but its use in actual practice may be waning -- led me to realize that the origins of its use in psychoanalysis have never been fully explored. The analytic literature is strangely silent on this topic. Following Freud, the couch became a fixture of analysts' offices, but no one seemed to know why.

Wolff: It sounds from what you're saying like the couch has a cultural history but not an intellectual one. That is, it has tremendous presence as a symbol, but no one has explored what it is a symbol *of*.

Kravis: I think if anything the couch has become a symbol of self-awareness. But yes, there hasn't been scholarly work on its intellectual lineage. Freud famously said that he got analysands to lie on a couch because he couldn't stand being stared at all day. But he never explained why recumbent posture should be preferred to simply arranging the chairs so that analyst and patient don't face each other. It seemed to me that there were probably real answers to that. Freud's easy explanation about not being stared at was, one could argue, a *proto*-theory. It was a germ of a line of thinking about the advantages to analytic technique of visual separation between analyst and analysand. But it left unformulated the cultural valences of the couch, and the meaning of recumbent speech in social settings. Freud inherited those meanings and would have sensed them even if he didn't articulate them.

I decided that it would be useful to delve into social history to find explanations for the couch's cultural importance. I began by looking at the history of posture. We think today of the couch or the examining table as connoting passivity or submission to medical authority, but that is only one meaning -- and a very recent one. In the Greco-Roman era, social elites enjoyed a custom of reclining at important meals, as in Plato's *Symposium*. I found that recumbence in social settings has long served as an expression of freedom, pleasure, luxury, and intimacy.

Evolving ideals of comfort and social intimacy are reflected in furniture history, clothing history, manners, and the healing arts, and they converged in the nineteenth century such that it became thinkable to lie down in the presence of another person to talk. Even though some professionals today frown upon its use,

the couch retains its significance in the public lexicon of symbols for interiority because it resonates so strongly with these cultural ideals.

Wolff: Classical Antiquity is pretty far removed from 20th century Vienna. What are some of the interim expressions?

Kravis: Chair portraiture provides a fairly constant illustration. Like the ancient throne, the medieval chair was a symbol of authority. For several centuries this was a stable cultural connotation -- whence our term *chairman*.

Wolff: It seems to me that a person seated in a chair reflects a certain kind of assertiveness, which is different from the demeanor of someone seated on a couch. Does the couch pre-date the chair?

Kravis: Yes and no. Beds antedate chairs, but beds and couches were not clearly distinguished linguistically until approximately the 16th century. Under Louis XIV, chairs were mostly part of an architectural aesthetic, made more to be admired than sat in, part of what one author has called the age's "gilded discomfort."

When reclining chairs became newly fashionable in the 17th-century, they heralded a resurrection of the reclining tradition of the Roman *convivium*. Sitting became a form of relaxation associated with sociability. Wider, lower chairs permitted conversation. *Sofa* was a word in use by 1688. It described a type of day bed with a back and two arms, and it enjoyed meteoric popularity.

In early 19th-century art, the link between the sofa and the classical reclining tradition was quite explicit.

Wolff: What are some examples?

Kravis: Neoclassical portraiture and painting depicting mythological subjects, like



Antonio Canova, *Paolina Bonaparte Borghese*, 1805-1808.

David's "Cupid and Psyche" and his famous portrait of Madame Récamier, strongly echo the posture and setting of the Greek *klinē* and the Roman *lectum*. Likewise, Canova's stunningly beautiful sculpture of Paolina Bonaparte Borghese posed as Venus very clearly invokes the formal elements, including the classic reclining posture, of Greco-Roman funerary monuments.

Wolff: So was Freud trying to conjure a sense of power and leisure among his patients?

Kravis: No, there were other meanings at work, as well. One is what I refer to as the "Medicalization of Comfort." In the 19th century a growing number of patients with chronic medical illnesses gave impetus to the proliferation of recliners and adjustable *chaises longues.* This was particularly true for tuberculosis, which was the leading cause of death among European and American adults in the 18th and 19th centuries. During Freud's lifetime, the most highly recommended treatment for TB was the open-air rest cure known as the *Luft-Liegekur.*

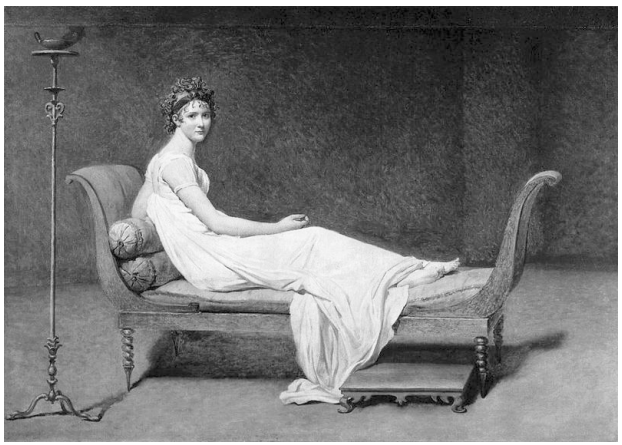
Wolff: Yes, as described in Thomas Mann's *Magic Mountain*.

Kravis: Precisely. Patients who sat in the open air to "take the cure" needed furniture modelled to the purpose. The *Schlafsofa* of the TB sanatorium had to be cheap, portable, and easily sanitized – all of which meant that it also had to be un-upholstered.

Wolff: The American equivalent would have been the Adirondack Chair. That one was developed at Saranac Lake, where Dr. E.L. Trudeau opened one of the first American TB sanitariums. Tuberculosis patients sat outside in them year-round, wrapped in furs during the winter.

Kravis: Yes. In the case of the *Schlafsofa*, its commonplace sanitarium features

Jacque-Louis David, *Madame Récamier,* 1805-1806



strongly influenced subsequent modernist design. The sleek interior elements that we see in many contemporary high-end couches are adaptations of these recliners. This reflects the fusion of medical science, modern design, and popular notions of health and well-being.

Wolff: Meanwhile, the Adirondack chairs are still sitting around outside. But Freud's couch wasn't particularly sleek. As I recall, it was some sort of sofa covered with throw pillows and kilims.

Kravis: Freud's couch was a divan given to him by his former patient, Madame Benvenisti, sometime around 1890. The rug you're thinking of was an engagement gift from Freud's cousin, given when he became engaged to Martha Bernays in 1883. It was a kilim (often referred to as "the Smyrna rug") which was becoming a *de rigeur* decorative item in *fin-de-siècle* Western Europe. He probably used the two together when he moved to a more spacious consulting room at Bergasse 19 in 1891. Freud's divan, by the way, was recently restored in London.

Wolff: So in its time, Freud's couch was fashionable, but not modernist?

Kravis: Fashionable in an Orientalist sense, yes. In all likelihood, Freud had been using one sort of *chaise longue* or another since opening his private practice in 1886, but his tastes were strongly influenced by the romantic and archeological motifs so popular in his day. Shortly after his father's death in 1896, Freud began collecting antiquities. In his office, he surrounded himself with "disinterred objects" (death masks, funeral vases, bronze coffins, mummy portraits). One could say that he was displaying his own emotional history – that is, that his collecting reflected his preoccupation with death. But Freud's collecting was also informed by his Enlightenment ideals: restoring value to neglected texts and objects, championing the value of remembering. It was a visual representation of the free association invited by the act of lying on the couch.

In the book, I talk about the way in which the analyst's office reflects her or his "moral interior." The way in which one chooses to decorate has always been indicative of moral and social values. The history of reclining dining and the social history of recumbent posture demonstrate this quite well. But from at least the middle of the 19th century, décor was held to also reflect something deeper about the self – if not quite the health of the soul then certainly its moral balance.

When it comes to Freud, the term *moral interior* acquires a double meaning, for his professional space enacts a theory of mind. The act of lying on the divan, surrounded by antiquities, invites a "narrative of excavation," an uncovering of hidden truths about the self. Freud and his contemporaries were riveted by the major archeological finds of the period, and Freud found it to be a rich source of metaphors for psychoanalytic treatment. In fact, Freud claimed to have read more archeology than psychology. It provided an ideal series of symbols for Freud's understanding of the way the mind works. Like collecting antiquities or, for that matter, dreams, jokes, and slips of the tongue, psychoanalysis was crucially about memory and its preservation.

Wolff: And free-associating on the couch allowed patients to experience that?

Kravis: Exactly.

Wolff: That is seriously cool.

Kravis: Plenty of contemporary analysts are ambivalent about the couch, but I think that it endures as a symbol of interiority and self-reflection.

Wolff: Do you use a couch in your own practice?

Kravis: I do. But I don't insist on it, and I always try to ascertain the patient's interest first. It's true that no one can claim to know with any degree of certainty for whom the couch is best suited, or for what types of problems. And there is no body of empirical research on posture, frequency of sessions, or duration of psychoanalytic treatment.

Ideally, both the analyst and the patient are better able to access deeper layers of thought when they don't regard each other face-to-face. A patient whose eyes are turned elsewhere in the room does not need to attend to the usual social cues.

But only a trial of analysis on the couch will tell. Good analytic technique calls for flexibility and sensitivity, not for insistence on one particular posture. But it seems fair to assert that for many people, talking while lying down is a uniquely powerful experience that has no parallel.

Wolff: Thank you.



Freud's couch at the Freud Museum in London.

Eric T. Carlson Memorial Grand Rounds

"Healing the Mind: Writing Takes the Ache Away"

Campbell Hospital was crowded with the casualties of the Civil War when Walt Whitman first beheld it in 1862: young men and grown boys tormented by frostbite, dysentery, bullet wounds, fever, the effects of amputation, and nearly every other horror derived from the battlefield. Whitman, a poet, had no medical knowledge to share, but he took on the role of witness and companion, engaging himself as a constant visitor to the sick. From 1862 until the close of the war, he kept vigil and performed small tasks in military hospitals throughout Washington: writing letters, bringing sweets, chatting, passing the time until healing came – or didn't. In the poem, "The Wound Dresser," he wrote:

> Returning, resuming, I thread my way through the hospitals,
> The hurt and wounded I pacify with soothing hand,
> I sit by the restless all the dark night, some are so young,
> Some suffer so much, I recall the experience sweet and sad

Whitman's watch was deliberate, a recognition of the link between attachment and healing. Without attachments, restoration could not take place. The body (or the mind) could not rebuild. Whitman maintained an urgent belief in the power of magnetic attraction as a healing force. He reflected that the properties of an ideal nurse included "the magnetic touch of hands, the expressive features of the mother, the silent soothing of her presence, her words, her knowledge and privileges arrived at only through having had children, are precious and final qualifications." Not all of these properties were his to confer, but he was highly gifted with the power of the tongue, and of the pen. His long conversations with brutalized soldiers, the letters he sent to their families, and the ones he himself dispatched to the wards during his occasional absences were the stuff of his hospital ministry. The healing that occurred in the Civil War came from the patients as well as the doctors, and again from the work of articulating the confusing trauma of the war itself.

The role of words and writing in healing, recognized repeatedly in the long-standing relationship between doctors and poets, was the subject of Kay Redfield Jamison's Carlson Lecture this spring, "Healing the Mind: Writing Takes the Ache Away." Jamison, who is a professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the author of three best-selling memoirs of her own experience, understands mania in both its clinical and personal forms. In her latest book, *Robert Lowell*: *Setting the River on Fire* (Knopf, 2017), she explores the link between mania and artistic creativity as she tells the story

of the brilliant and manic-depressive New England poet.

Jamison notes that the work is not a traditional biography, being less a narrative of his life than a narrative "of the illness that so affected him." Lowell had an unbelievably bad form of manic illness. Jamison describes it as a psychotic and repetitive iteration that prevented the poet's life from following a straight line. It seemed to coil instead, as one reviewer notes, "like razor wire through intervals of misery, each a discouraging echo of the last." But Lowell was also blessed with enormous family wealth and powerful friends, assets that ensured access to treatment (his earliest psychiatric consultation occurred when he was 15). More importantly, perhaps, he was gifted with rare literary genius, a resource he was able to utilize as a buffer against the total destructive power of his illness.

Throughout his life, Lowell used words to heal. Psychotherapy and medication helped (lithium especially), but they were never enough. Only writing healed. Writing, Lowell told his friend and editor, Frank Goddart, takes the ache away.

This distinction between healing and treatment is a potent one for Jamison, whose memoirs chronicling her own experience with bipolar disorder have made her one of the public faces of the illness. Modern-day treatments like cognitive therapies, psychotherapies, and medication are critical tools for stabilizing the seriously ill. But after the work of arresting the illness comes the labor of healing, which is subtler and calls on a different methodology. This is the restorative, priest-like side of things, Jamison notes. It is the laying on of hands, the encouraging of work, "the finding-out that is deeply philosophically and emotionally important to the patient, and then encouraging that in the patient themselves."

Lowell's experience points to an ancient familiarity with the healing of mania by doctors, through words and medicine and the laying on of hands. What is today discussed as psychotherapeutic practice has been recognized by the religions of the world for centuries as the power of the individual to interact with another individual, and to heal.

In her lecture, Jamison reviewed the history of mania and its treatment, reflecting on the parallels between this most anciently-described of the psychoses and the damages inflicted on the mind by the trauma of war. Walt Whitman left behind a compelling literary record of the mind convalescing at wartime. His description is mirrored in many ways by another well-documented relationship of healing: that between Dr. W.H. Rivers and his patient, Siegfried Sassoon. Rivers was a psychiatrist and neurologist who was appointed during World War I to treat patients suffering from shell shock at Craiglockhart War Hospital, near Edinburgh. His belief as a psychiatrist was that doctors should make intolerable memories tolerable, and his method for doing so was to provide a controlled environment for patients to reflect on the horrors they had undergone, enabling them to meet the horror with their own strength. Like Whitman, one of the things he was very good at was "granting them the kind of complexity

to deal with awful things in their own way in their own time." When Sassoon arrived at Craiglockhart he found in Rivers a fount of solace. The relationship that budded between them is described in Sassoon's memoirs in great, loving detail, and he attributed his own mental maturity to his contact with the doctor. When Sassoon was again hospitalized later in the war, he described the moment that Rivers came to visit him. "Everything had fallen to pieces, and one's mind was in a muddle, and one's nerves were all on edge. And then, unexpected and unannounced, Rivers came in and closed the door behind him. Quiet and alert, purposeful and unhesitating, he seemed to empty the room of everything that had needed exorcising." Jamison notes that his words capture the sense of a great psychotherapeutic relationship. "What Sassoon described is what I think all of us might describe great psychotherapy as being all about: one incorporates the person, the values, the healing."

One of Rivers' assets as a clinician was his capacity to see and understand the parallels between an assault of mania and the trauma of war. Jamison confirms the similarities, which she notes are under-discussed in the clinical literature. Tuke, in the 1800s, described the horrors of an assault of mania. "It fares indeed with the patient after an attack of mania as with a city or garrison after the horrors of an assault. That it may present as a heap of smouldering ruins." The question – for Lowell, for Jamison, for Sassoon -- is what one does with the smoldering ruins.

Jamison finds compelling (and perhaps familiar) answers to this question in her primary subject, Robert Lowell. With the permission of his daughter, Harriet Winslet Lowell, Jamison received access to the 60-year span of the poet's medical records, which include numerous hospitalizations at Payne Whitney. His illness is a doleful story, often lightly glossed or poorly understood by biographers and the press, who have tended to frame his cycles of mania and recovery in moral terms, tinged with scolding. His daughter's corrective was a full and open discussion of the record, for which she enlisted Jamison's rare combination of literary skill and clinical expertise.

Jamison sees a figure saddled with one of the worst and most ravaging forms of manic illness, who was determined to learn how to deal with adversity. Lowell's bouts of mania were uniquely destructive. They left a wake of smashed wine glasses, discarded strait jackets, and broken relationships, but Lowell's determination to repair the damage was as unrelenting as the illness itself. His remorse was always profound, and each time he faced a recurrence he resolved to put the pieces together again, always facing the same questions: How do you heal? How do you atone? What are the things you do?

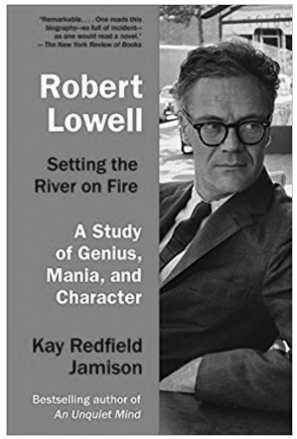
Unsurprisingly, Lowell turned to his literary gifts for succor and restoration. In the mayhem of every siege these were left intact, unreducible. So, too, were the incredible discipline and hard work that are the hallmark of great writers. "He generated tons of material on the way up," observed Jamison, "and then spent the months of depression revising, revising, revising, working." Often,

he seemed uncertain of his purpose. Recalling a hospitalization and a resident doctor who shared the poet's uncertainty, Lowell once wrote, "I asked, these days of only poems and depression, what can I do with them? Will they help me to notice what I cannot bear to look at?" Perhaps, however, he already knew. Metaphor and symbolism provide ready means of working through pain. They are essential tools of indirection for confronting suffering, able to provide the controlled reflection provided by Rivers. For Lowell, they came quickly and abundantly to hand.

If Lowell was doubtful of his purpose in writing, he was clear about his hopes. "I almost doubt if the time would pass otherwise. However, I also hope that the result will supply me with swaddling clothes, with a sort of immense bandage of grace and ambergris for my hurt nerves," he noted in *Near the Unbalanced Aquarium.* Elsewhere he reflected, "Writing felt to me like a life preserver. At last I could dominate, to spy, to say nothing mattered except the great works of art." While writing he could work, and think. He was able to face down the hurt, not dead on but indirectly. It gave a certain mastery and order to chaos.

Being from Hopkins, quipped Jamison, one is obliged to mention Osler in any talk. "But actually, Osler felt very strongly about this." He called work "the true balm of hurt minds." "In its presence the heart of the sorrowful is lightened and consoled." Payne Whitney's occupational therapy department was located on the sixth floor, and Lowell was well familiar with it. His truest therapy, however, was his own occupation. No one is healed by writing alone (Jamison noted dryly that there are thousands of years of evidence of that), but for Lowell the greatest restorative was getting back to work.

The scars left by madness, Lowell believed, are like those left by war. The chaos, uncertainty, toppling of habit, and suspension of morals are similar in one as in the other, and a lifetime of experience demonstrated to him neither could be repressed or successfully set aside. Lithium was, for Lowell, a great salvation. He responded to it well, and it was an enormous aid for the last seven years of his life. "This has changed my life," he wrote, "not only no attacks, no hospitals, but even perhaps health itself is different – freer and out of the shadows." But he held no quixotic notions that it would cure his disease – and it didn't. In 1975 he developed lithium toxicity, and after a period of delirium and hospitalization his condition remained unstable. He continued to write, however, publishing a final volume of poems, *Day by Day,* in May, 1977. Many of the poems in this volume pondered Lowell's past relationships, his life, and his mortality. The poet Anthony Hecht once reflected that the work was "a very touching, moving, gentle book, tinged with a sense of [Lowell's] own



pain and the pain [he'd] given to others." As ever, he had turned to his work on the page to learn from the hard cards dealt, and to deal with the suffering and terror of his illness. "Mania, like war, provides the conditions for reconstruction, and reinvention," Jamison reminded her audience. This was undoubtedly true. *Day by Day* won the National Medal for Literature that year. In January, 1978, it was awarded the National Book Critics Circle Award for poetry. Lowell lived only long enough to collect the first of the prizes, but the work lives on. As Jamison writes in the final lines of *Setting the River on Fire*, "The poet's voice speaks for the dead, the hushed, the valorous. It signifies the hours, reminds of death. It gives depth and resonance to blithe times, solace in the dark."

Megan J. Wolff, Ph.D., MPH



Charlott Perriand on the B306 *chaise-longue* designed by Perriand and Le Corbusier.

Richardson Seminar on the History of Psychiatry

Seminar Program Director's Report

The 2017-2018 academic year was exciting for the Richardson Seminar, which serves as a forum for clinicians, scholars, public intellectuals and interested visitors to engage, every other week, in lively conversation with the regular members of this academic community. As always, the Richardson Seminar continues to connect past, present, and future inquiries in our fields, and to establish surprising and refreshing links between the intellectual worlds outside and inside the confines of institutes of higher learning, such as Weill Cornell.

A particularly noteworthy lecture was given by gifted journalist Rachel Aviv, a staff writer at *The New Yorker*. In her talk, entitled, "The Trauma of Deportation," Aviv shared her recent research on refugee children facing deportation in Sweden, hundreds of whom have fallen into comas upon learning that their families will soon be expelled. Aviv's acute portrayal of the trauma faced by children and their families was both apt and visceral, and her research, thinking, and writing about this increasingly alarming political phenomenon was forward-looking.

During the Spring term, we hosted two further public intellectuals: first, Damion Searls, whose book, *The Inkblots: Hermann Rorschach, His Iconic Test, and The Power of Seeing* (Simon and Schuster, 2017), won several recent awards; and, second, Tamsin Shaw, a Professor of European and Mediterranean Studies and Philosophy at New York University, who frequently contributes her critical work and review articles to the *New York Review of Books,* and who spoke to us about how moral psychology became a national security issue.

Yet another guest whom we had the privilege of hearing and conversing with was Professor Béatrice Longuenesse, who teaches at the Philosophy Department at NYU. In her lecture, Longueness spoke about "Residues of First Nature," notably in Freud, Kant and Hegel.

First and second nature were also central topics in three other talks that utilized Freud and the history of his ideas to understand the current political climate. Donald Carveth, an Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Social & Political Thought at York University in Toronto, demonstrated how psychoanalysis could be used to understand morality (or its absence). Eli Zaretzky, Professor of History at the New School University and author of *Political Freud: A History* (Columbia, 2017), lectured on "Freud's Group Psychology and the Trump Upheaval."

Our yearly Esman Lecture was given by Michael P. Steinberg, then President of

the American Academy in Berlin (current Vice Provost at Brown University), and the author of *The Trouble with Wagner* (University of Chicago, 2018). Steinberg, whose principal research interests include the cultural history of modern Germany and Austria, has written and lectured widely on the history of music and psychoanalysis. His critical contributions have appeared in the *New York Times* and were presented at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Bard Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival and School, and the Salzburg Festival. In his lecture to our group, he provoked a fruitful conversation by introduced some of his latest work in progress.

We concluded the Spring semester with an outstanding Carlson lecture and Richardson Seminar, delivered by Kay Redfield Jamison, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Johns Hopkins University, perhaps best known for her personal writing on the experience of mental illness. Jamison spoke to the seminar about her new biography of Robert Lowell, a book for which she was a Pulitzer Prize Finalist for Biography in 2018.

We also had the pleasure and responsibility of having younger scholars visit the seminar this year. Against the backdrop of the recent opioid epidemic, we began our Fall semester with two guest speakers whose research focused on the history of addiction. Professor Eugene Raikhel from the Department for Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago spoke about concepts of addiction in Russia. And Professor Claire Clark from the University of Kentucky's College of Medicine and author of *The Recovery Revolution: The Battle Over Addiction Treatment in the United* States (Columbia, 2017*)* spoke about the history of addiction treatment.

We also heard two young scholars from the United Kingdom: Chris Millard from the University of Sheffield and Sarah Chaney from Queen Mary University of London both spoke to us about aspects of the history of self-harm.

The Richardson Seminar is known for its interdisciplinary exchange between clinicians and scholars, whose research covers the fields of medicine, philosophy, history of science, modern history, intellectual history, and literature. To this we have deliberately added the voices of public intellectuals whose work helps create bridges between academia and a much larger interested audience of professionals, critics, and clinicians.

Orna Ophir, Ph.D.



Pablo Picasso, *Femme coucheé lisant* (Reclining Woman Reading), 1960.

Seminar Presentations
2017 - 2018

September 6 **Zachary Levine,** doctoral candidate, Columbia University
"The Illuminating Case: The Case Study as a Psychiatric Research Method in Third Republic France"

October 4 **Avraham Rot, Ph.D.,** Johns Hopkins University
"The Postulate of Anxiety in Freudian Theory, or Why There Are No Boredom Disorders"

October 18 **Robert Goldstein, M.D.,** Weill Cornell Medical College
"Innateness: A Hundreds' Year War"

November 1 **Samuel Scharff,** M.D./Ph.D. candidate, Johns Hopkins
"'A Glimpse of the Promised Land': Psychiatry, Law, and the Politics of U.S. Criminal Justice, 1941-1976"

November 15 **Thomas Dodman, Ph.D.,** Boston College
"What Nostalgia Was: Emotions Before Trauma"

December 6 **Matthew Gambino, M.D., Ph.D.,** University of Illinois, Chicago
"Fevered Decisions: Race, Ethics, and Clinical Vulnerability in the Malarial Treatment of Neurosyphilis, 1922-1953"

December 20 *No Seminar -- Holiday Party*

January 3 **Rachel Aviv,** Staff Writer, *The New Yorker*
Stevens-Barchas Lecture
"The Trauma of Deportation"

January 17 **Beatrice Longuenesse, Ph.D.,** New York University
"Residues of first nature: Freud, Kant, Hegel"

February 7 **Damion Searls, Ph.D.**
"The Life of Hermann Rorschach and Afterlife of His Inkblots"

February 21 **Tamsin Shaw, Ph.D.,** New York University
"How Moral Psychology Became a National Security Issue"

March 7 **Eli Zaretsky, Ph.D.,** The New School for Social Research
"Freud's Group Psychology and the Trump Upheaval"

March 21 *Cancelled*

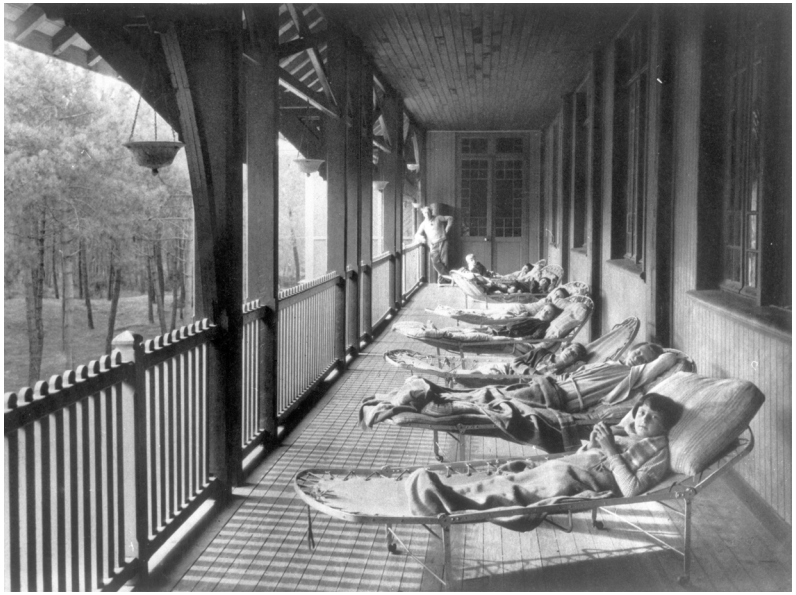
April 4 **Michael Steinberg, Ph.D.,** Brown University
Esman Lecture
"Richard Wagner and the Musical Unconscious"

April 18 **Sarah Chaney, Ph.D.,** Queen Mary University of London
"Sex, Death and Gender: Understanding the History of Self-Injury"

May 2 **Donald Carveth, Ph.D.,** York University
"Why we should stop conflating the superego with the conscience"

May 16 **Kay Redfield Jamison, Ph.D.,** Johns Hopkins Medicine
Eric T. Carlson Memorial Lecture: Grand Rounds
"Healing the Mind: Writing Takes the Ache Away"

Richardson Seminar
"Robert Lowell: Setting the River on Fire"



Children at a convalescent home in the vosges, c. 1930.

Issues in Mental Health Policy
2017 - 2018

September 20 **Benjamin Nordstrom, M.D., Ph.D.**
Senior Vice President & Chief Clinical Officer, Phoenix House
"Fentanyl in the Nation's Drug Supply"

January 31 **Kathleen Bachynski, Ph.D., MPH**
Postdoctoral Fellow
Medical Humanities, NYU Langone Health
"A Tangled Toll: Repetitive Brain Injury and Mental Health"

Policy Resources

To increase the public availability of factual information pertaining to mental health disorders and their care in the United States, the Institute for the History of Psychiatry has created an online resource for journalists, policymakers, scholars, students, clinicians, and others to access accurate and up to date information. Material is drawn from peer-reviewed journals, government data, public and philanthropic foundations, and other scholarly sources, and posted to our website at **http://psych-history.weill.cornell.edu/mental_health_policy/index.html.** New fact sheets are posted periodically and updates are added to existing ones. On the following pages we include a sampling of the resources compiled this year.

Megan J. Wolff, Ph.D., MPH

Fact Sheet: Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy

Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) is a progressive degenerative disease of the brain known to occur in individuals who have sustained repeated brain injuries such as concussions. The condition was historically associated with boxers, but recent studies identifying CTE in retired football players have attracted widespread interest. CTE has also been recognized in participants in other contact sports, military veterans, and domestic abuse survivors. The physical pathology and the social and psychiatric implications of the disorder are under increased investigation.

Pathology: On autopsy, the brains of individuals suffering from CTE reveal distinct signs of damage and change.

On gross pathology, Investigators have observed visible damage to brain tissue, including atrophy to the frontal and temporal lobes, thinning of the corpus callosum, enlargement of the cavum septum pellucidum, and cerebellar scarring.[1]

On microscopic examination, investigators have noted a range of injuries to CTE brains, including microhemorrhages and damage to the axons of nerve cells. A high rate of death among nerve cells is also observed.[2]

Risk: Professional Football Players

Much attention has been brought to CTE due to increasing reports of dementia among National Football League (NFL) players with a history of multiple concussions.

In 2017, investigators published a study analyzing the brains of 202 deceased football players, and diagnosed CTE in 87% of them. Among individuals who had played for the NFL, 99% of brains exhibited CTE.[3]

Risk:Young Athletes

CTE has been diagnosed at autopsy in individuals who played sports only in high school or college, including people as young as 17.[4]

In football alone, an estimated 10% of college players and 20% of high school players in the United States sustain brain injuries each season.[5]

Risk: Deployed Military Personnel

Active-duty military personnel and veterans are at high risk of moderate to severe brain injury, a risk not limited to those who were engaged in active combat.[6]

A 2018 study of veterans receiving care through the VA found that those who had experienced traumatic brain injury developed dementia twice as often as those who did not.[7]

Risk: Domestic Abuse Survivors

Victims of domestic abuse often experience blows likely to result in traumatic brain injury, and are among the populations currently being examined for increased prevalence of CTE.[8]

Domestic attackers most often inflict trauma to the head, neck, and face, and may do so repeatedly over a period of years, a circumstance strongly associated with the development of CTE.[9]

(http://psych-history.weill.cornell.edu/his_res/cte.html)

Footnotes

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2. Blumbergs PC, Scott G, Manavis J, Wainwright H, Simpson DA, McLean AJ. (1994). Staining of amyloid precursor protein to study axonal damage in mild head injury. *Lancet* 344(8929):1055–1056.

3. Mez J, Daneshvar DH, Kiernan PT, Abdolmohammadi B, Alvarez VE, Huber BR, ... & Cormier KA. (2017). Clinicopathological evaluation of chronic traumatic encephalopathy in players of American football. *JAMA* 318(4), 360-370.

4. Harvard Medical School Psychiatry Neuroimaging Laboratory, "Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy," http://pnl.bwh.harvard.edu/education/what-is/chronic-traumatic-encephalopathy/

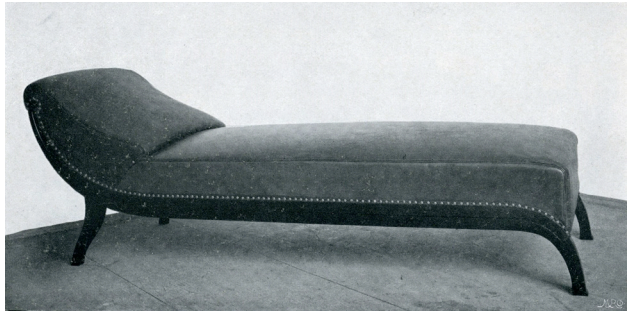
5. Powell JW, Barber-Foss KD. (1999). Traumatic brain injury in high school athletes. *JAMA*, 282(10):958. Marar, et al. (2012).

6. Okie S. (2005). Traumatic brain injury in the war zone. *N Engl J Med.* 352(20):2043-2047.

7. Barnes DE, Byers AL, Gardner RC, et al. [published online May 7, 2018]. Association of mild traumatic brain injury with and without loss of consciousness with dementia in US military veterans. *JAMA Neurol.*

8. Kwako LE, Glass N, Campbell J, Melvin KC, Barr T, & Gill JM. (2011). Traumatic brain injury in intimate partner violence: A critical review of outcomes and mechanisms. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 12(3), 115-126.

9. Sheridan DJ, & Nash KR. (2007). Acute injury patterns of intimate partner violence victims. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 8(3), 281-289. Researchers estimate that between 88% and 94% of domestic assaults involve injuries to the head and neck. Arosarena OA, Fritsch TA, Hsueh Y, Aynehchi B, & Haug R. (2009). Maxillofacial injuries and violence against women. *Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery,* 11(1), 48-52.



Dresden *Ruhebank,* 1902.

Fact Sheet: The Trauma of Childhood Separation

The forcible and sudden separation of children from parents constitutes a form of trauma that can have both immediate and long-lasting health consequences.
Even brief separations are stressful to young children.

Attachment:

It is well understood that the key to healthy development is "attachment," a concept originated by British Psychiatrist John Bowlby to denote a "lasting psychological connectedness between human beings." [1]

Attachment is the key to many of a child's developmental milestones.The mechanism is adaptive and enhances the infant's chance of survival.[2]

Attachment also serves as a well-known buffer against the effects of trauma. Distressed children who are hugged by caregivers experience a drop in stress hormones and a corresponding reduction in breathing and heart rate.[3]

Studies of children evacuated from London as a result of the Blitz during World War II found that sudden separation from their parents was more traumatic than the bombings themselves.[4]

Childhood Toxic Stress: [5]

In the absence of the emotional buffering provided by a caregiver, traumatized children may experience a type of ongoing agitation, their bodies unable to return to baseline function even after the stressor is removed. Researchers have termed this "toxic stress."[6]

"Childhood toxic stress" disrupts the neuroendocrine-immune network, interfering with immune function and increasing the risk and frequency of illness.

Adults who suffered from childhood toxic stress experience more physical illness and poor health outcomes, including alcoholism, obesity, heart disease, depression, and cancer.[7]

Chronic stress in children can directly affect brain development, altering the architecture of the brain itself.[8]

Cell loss is measurable, for instance, in the hippocampus, the region associated with spatial navigation, memory, and the regulation of emotions.[9]

Developmental changes are also observable in the corpus callosum, the left neocortex, and the amygdala.[10]

This suggests why children subject to ongoing trauma can experience a broad spectrum of developmental issues, including difficulty with speech and language and with gross and fine motor skills, as well as with social development.[11]

(http://psych-history.weill.cornell.edu/his_res/tcs.html)

Footnotes

1. Bowlby, J. (1969). *Attachment and Loss: Attachment. 1969*. New York: Basic Books.

2. Bowlby, J. (1958). The nature of the child's tie to his mother. *The International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, 39, 350.

3. Blum, D. (2003). *Love at Goon Park: Harry Harlow and the Science of Affection*. Chichester: Wiley, p 268.

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5. Garner AS, Shonkoff JP; Committee on Psychosocial Aspects of Child and Family Health; Committee on Early Childhood, Adoption, and Dependent Care; Section on Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. Early childhood adversity, toxic stress, and the role of the pediatrician: translating developmental science into lifelong health. Pediatrics. 2012; 129(1).

6. Franke HA. (2014). Toxic stress: Effects, Prevention and Treatment. *Children*, 1(3), 390-402.

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Saint-Georges, *veilleuse*, c.1750.

Fact Sheet: The Impact of Family Detention on Children

Family detention is the practice of holding immigrant families, including children, in prison-like detention centers with their parents. It is a global issue condemned by many human rights and professional organizations both within the United States and beyond its borders.[1]

A substantial body of scientific literature indicates that immigrant detention poses a severe risk to the mental health of minors, even when they are not separated from caregivers and even when the period of detention is short.[2]

The United States

Advocacy groups continue to document high rates of psychopathology among detained children, including posttraumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, and other behavioral problems.[3]

In a 2015 lawsuit seeking to reform immigrant family detention facilities, Human Rights First submitted an amicus brief documenting jail-like conditions in ICE facilities, and persistent psychopathology among adult and child inmates.[4]

The American Association of Pediatrics notes that "there is no evidence indicating that any time in detention is safe for children.[5]

Disruption of Parent-Child Bonds

The experience of detention undermines parental authority and the caregiver's capacity to respond to children's needs. Difficulties are complicated by the mental health problems commonly found in adult refugees subject to immigrant detention. [6]

Criminalizing, punitive, and humiliating practices

Detention itself is essentially punitive. Though technically administrative, the conditions of detention – prison uniforms, shackles -- convey a sense of criminalization. In a 2003 survey of ICE detention, 70% of individuals reported being handcuffed, shackled, or both upon arrival in the United States.[7]

Exposure to violence

Documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act revealed 809 official complaints lodged between 2009 and 2012 by detainees for physical abuse, excessive use of force, inadequate conditions, racial profiling, sexual abuse, improper searches, inappropriate touching, and withholding of medical treatment. Among those cases in which a formal decision was issued, 97% resulted in "No Action Taken."[8]

Neglect of Healthcare

Visits to American family detention centers by pediatric and mental health advocates in 2015 and 2016 revealed inadequate or inappropriate immunizations, delayed medical care, inadequate education services, and limited mental health services.[9]

Retraumatization

The majority of individuals held in immigrant detention are refugees.[10]

77% of child migrants in one study stated that violence was the primary cause for fleeing.[11]

(http://psych-history.weill.cornell.edu/his_res/fds.html)

Footnotes

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10. Grewal M. *Family Detention 101.* Detention Watch Network. Accessible at grassrootsleadership.org/sites/default/files/uploads/Family Detention Backgrounder.pdf

11. Jones J, & Podkul J. (2012). *Forced from home: the lost boys and girls of Central America*. New York, NY: Women Refugee Commission.



Freud's desk and couch in London, where he moved in 1938, a year before his death, to escape the Nazis.

Working Groups

Working Group on Psychoanalysis and the Humanities

The Working Group on Psychoanalysis and the Humanities had another year of lively, productive discussions of members' work. Dr. Hilary Beattie presented a new aspect of her ongoing work on Robert Louis Stevenson concerning a notorious literary quarrel with his cousin, who was the pseudonymous author of the two stories we read. Prof. Elisabeth Gitter engaged the group in a discussion of her paper on "The Winning of Fanny Appleton by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow." (Prof. Gitter's previous presentation to the Working Group is acknowleged in the paper she published in T*he Massachusetts Historical Review,* 2017.) Dr. Susan Scheftel led a discussion of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland," continuing to explore themes of her previous presentation on Nabokov. Dr. Ellie Gelman led the group in a new direction with a close reading of an essay. She discussed R.W. Emerson's essay "Experience," whose tensions, contradictions, and emotional inflections suggest his grieving for the son who had died two years earlier. The Rev. Curtis Hart also took the group in a new direction, leading a discussion of Julian Barnes' "The Noise of Time" in relation to Dmitri Shostakovich and his career in the Soviet state. And for our last meeting, Dr. Nirav Soni introduced a genre unfamiliar to many members of the group--science fiction—as he led a lively discussion of Philip K. Dick's "Flow My Tears, the Policeman Said."

Katherine Dalsimer, Ph.D.

Working Group on the Mind Sciences

Over the past academic year, the Working Group on the Mind Sciences hosted a series of discussions on the nature of mind, the "psy" sciences and psychoanalysis in particular. Dagmar Herzog presented her brilliant work on post-war German psychoanalysis, while Barbara Stimmel took up psychohistory and its discontents. John Forrester's excellent study of the single case as a scientific object was discussed by both Ted Shapiro and Benjamin Rush fellow Kristopher Kast, while Bob Michels raised ethical questions about psychobiography as exemplified by a breech of confidentiality by Philip Roth's analyst. Larry Friedman worked though his ideas on anthropologist Clifford Geertz and culture, and Orna Ophir took up the always fascinating writings of our past Carlson lecturer, Ian Hacking, regarding mental illnesses that flare then disappear. Lenny Groopman dove deep into the well to raise issues about the very nature of history, as seen through the eyes of the American historian, Gordon Wood. Finally, Nate Kravis took a fresh look at witchcraft, through contemporary anthropological studies on social trust and intimacy. Obviously, the working group, though once devoted solely to psychoanalysis, has spread out and followed the research interests of its members to allied disciplines and related topics. I find this a most welcome development and I look forward to another year of surprising explorations.

George J. Makari, M.D.

Seminar in Narrative Psychiatry

In the 2017-2018 seminar, I continued the now established format of assigning a short text to be read before each meeting with all writing done in class. The year's theme turned on questions of self and other and the narrating "I" in terms of psychiatric practice. Many of the authors were hospitalized for mental illness during their lifetimes or were given a diagnosis posthumously. The texts included Elizabeth Bishop's "The Waiting Room," Laura Riding's "With the Face goes a Mirror," Theodore Roethke's "Silence," Sylvia Plath's "Daddy," as well excerpts from Whitman's "The Sleepers," Pessoa's *The Book of Disquiet*, and Hervey Cleckley's *The Mask of Sanity*. The texts provided a striking range of written selves, from Pessoa's heteronyms to Plath's raging adult-child persona, to Whitman's unbounded self as world, to the annihilation of the other in extreme narcissism, well illustrated by one of Cleckley's case studies and our current politics. Our discussions were rich. The doctors' writing was sharp, revealing, and often poetic. It was a great year for the seminar.

Siri Hustvedt, Ph.D.



Wakefield Rattan Company advertisement, 1879.

Tribute to Jack Barchas, M.D.

(Delivered at the ceremony honoring his retirement as Chairman)

Where did the time go? For those us who have been along for the ride, Jack Barchas' extraordinary, deeply impactful twenty-five years as chairman seem to have gone by too quickly. Perhaps that's because many of us wished it would never end.

Much has already been said about Jack's supercharged intellect and his personality, his unrelenting positivity leavened by a sharp wit, his importance - far beyond these walls - to American medicine and science. And so, instead of repeating those things, allow me instead to share a few personal snapshots.

I was two years out of residency, a research fellow with a dubious future, when our new chairman asked to meet. My encounters with our prior chairmen always took place in their palatial wood paneled offices, but to my surprise, Dr. Barchas came to my tiny office on the top floor of the old Payne Whitney. Jack introduced himself, asked lots of questions, and as I replied, I realized he was examining my bookshelves and paintings. At the end of our talk, he did something rather astonishing: he leaned forward and told me he understood what I valued and why I was on the road I was on. It was – I believe – the greatest gift a mentor can offer a young person and it was a gift he kept giving. It was, in the deepest sense, recognition.

I was far from alone. Jack loved being a mentor - as hundreds of lucky acolytes stretching from coast to coast can attest. Stunningly accomplished in his own work, Jack also has always been curious about others, listening, reaching out, cheering them on, and gently offering wisdom and guidance. That was one of the secrets to his leadership; his capacity to motivate those around him came not so much from power as from humility, the way he made you feel you were not just working for him, but rather striving along with him towards a shared set of ideals and goals.

Another episode, six years later: I had just been appointed Associate Professor and had concocted a plan to destroy my own academic career. I pulled Jack aside at a Grand Rounds lunch and asked for his blessing to stop publishing for a period of time, probably years. I had found so much exciting, new material, that I wanted to write a big book. Was that OK? He blinked, he swallowed, did some due diligence, then said, I should go for it. During the ensuing years, I often thought of this act of faith, and was determined not to let him down. When that book came out, in the last line of the Acknowledgments, I gave thanks to the man "who urged me on from start to finish."

But is such gratitude enough, really? What do you say to the figure who helped you built a bridge from your aspirations to their reality? I am among many who can say that over the past two and half decades Jack Barchas did that. He helped us become the doctors, teachers, caregivers, administrators, scientists, the people we hoped to be.

Twenty-five years! Much of it is a blur, but when I think about Jack, it's not about the passage of time. Jack Barchas was and will continue to be a powerful, deeply internalized presence when we think of who we are at Weill Cornell Psychiatry. His character will continue to be an inspiration, a guiding light for high ethical standards, intense intellectual openness and seriousness, generosity, and the humane care of those in need. We will wake up on July 1st and the next day, knowing that still is our story. Jack may have retired – and we are looking forward to his next chapter - but the work he has done, the culture he did so much to create, carries on in our beliefs, our identities, our histories, even our myths. That is the legacy he has left us. Today then is a day to say to Jack, not just from me or from us, but also from those who will come in the future, thank you.

George J. Makari, M.D.



Research Faculty

Staff & Affiliated Faculty

George J. Makari, M.D.	Director
Nathan Kravis, M.D.	Associate Director
Marisa Shaari, MLIS	Special Collections Librarian
Megan J. Wolff, Ph.D., MPH	Administrator
Anna M. Antonovsky, Ph.D.	
Michael Beldoch, Ph.D.	
Samantha Boardman, M.D.	
Edward Brown, M.D.	
Cyd Cipolla, Ph.D.	(New York University)
Daria Colombo, M.D.	
Katherine Dalsimer, Ph.D.	(Columbia University)
Aaron Esman, M.D.	
Joseph J. Fins, M.D., F.A.C.P.	
Lawrence Friedman, M.D.	
Richard Friedman, M.D.	
William A. Frosch, M.D.	
Robert Goldstein, M.D.	
L.C. Groopman, M.D., Ph.D.	
Curtis Hart, M.Div.	
Dagmar Herzog, Ph.D.	(CUNY Grad Center)
Anne Golomb Hoffman, Ph.D.	(Fordham University)
Siri Hustvedt, Ph.D.	
Robert Michels, M.D.	
Doris B. Nagel, M.D.	
Orna Ophir, Ph.D.	(New York University)
Camille Robcis, Ph.D.	(Columbia University)
Louis Sass, Ph.D.	(Rutgers University)
Theodore Shapiro, M.D.	
Nirav Sonu, Ph.D.	
Paul E. Stepansky, Ph.D.	
Rosemary Stevens, Ph.D., MPH	
Barbara Stimmel, Ph.D.	
Peter Wilson, M.D.	

All have appointments at Weill Cornell. If a member's primary academic positon is elsewhere, it is given in parentheses.

Faculty News

Edward Brown, M.D., continues to participate in the Brown University Psychiatry and Philosophy Study Group, where he moderated a session discussing Markova and Berrios' article, "The Epistemology of Psychiatry." Most days he continues to time travel to seventeenth century England to pursue his study of Thomas Willis, the first neuropsychiatrist.

Cyd Cipolla, Ph.D., serves as a Class Adviser and Associate Faculty member at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University, where she advises students interested in the history of psychology, cognitive and computer science, gender and feminist theory, and critical studies of science and technology. She is teaching experimental courses at the intersection of science and critical thought, including "Tinkering in Feminist Technoscience" and "How Human? Robots, Cyborgs, and AI." She presented a paper called "Rape, Robot: Sexuality, Consent, and the Raced-Gendering of 'Artificial' Bodies," at the National Women's Studies Association in November 2017.

Daria Colombo, M.D, is on the board of the *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*, the *Psychoanalytic Quarterly* (where she was appointed to the Board of Governors), and *JAPA*. She is on the faculty of the New York Psychoanalytic Institute, supervises residents from Payne Whitney and Mount Sinai, as well as psychology externs at NYPSI, and teaches clinical case seminars at Payne Whitney and Mt. Sinai. She was recently promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College.

Katherine Dalsimer, Ph.D., is Clinical Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at WCMC. She is the coordinator of the Institute's Working Group on Psychoanalysis and the Humanities.

Aaron Esman, M.D., remains an active participant in the center's working groups, and attendee of the Richardson Seminars. He continues to contribute book reviews to the *Psychoanalytic Quarterly*.

Joseph J. Fins, M.D., M.A.C.P., F.R.C.P., continues as Chief of the Division of Medical Ethics, the E. William Davis, Jr., M.D., Professor of Medical Ethics, Professor of Medicine, Professor of Medicine in Psychiatry and Professor of Medical Ethics in Neurology at Weill Cornell Medicine. In the past year, he was also appointed as Professor of Medical Ethics in Rehabilitation Medicine. He continues to co-direct the Consortium for the Advanced Study of Brain Injury (CASBI). His scholarly focus has been on neuroethics and disorders of consciousness. Through his on-going appointment as The Solomon Center Distinguished Scholar in Medicine, Bioethics and the Law at Yale Law School, he has been exploring the rights owed to patients with severe brain injury. He authored an essay for *The New York Times* entitled, "Brain Injury and the Civil Right We Don't Think About," as well as other medical and law review articles addressing disorders of consciousness,

bioethics, and the law. He was appointed to the International Academic Council of the Instituto de Humanidades y Ciencias de la Salud Gregorio Marañón de la Fundación Ortega-Marañón in Madrid and was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London.

Lawrence Friedman, M.D., is on the faculty of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Education affiliated with the NYU Medical School, where he is a member of the Curriculum Revision Committee, and advisor on its Curriculum Committee. This year he taught a class on the ideas of Heinz Kohut. He serves on the board of directors and the editorial board of *The Psychoanalytic Quarterly*, and the Editorial Board of *Psychoanalytic Inquiry.* He is an editorial consultant to *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*. He is collecting his previously published papers on Freudian theories of the mind, to be published next year by Routledge.

Richard Friedman, M.D., continues to serve as a contributing Op-Ed writer for *the New York Times*, where he writes on mental health and behavioral neuroscience.

William Frosch, M.D., presented a paper, 'From the Sublime to the Ridiculous, and Back Again: The Saga of Father Louis' to the Vidonians, to Charaka, and to the recent psychology graduates of Reykjavik University. He also published a book review on a history of the opioid epidemic in the *FASAB Journal*.

Robert Goldstein, M.D., presented a paper at the Richardson Seminar entitled, "What Do We Mean by Innate?" It will be a chapter in his book-length project, "Against Narrative: How Biographical Understandings of Behavior Lead Us Astray."

Curtis W. Hart, M.Div., continues in his teaching role in the Mental Status Exam course in the Department of Psychiatry and in the Medical Ethics curriculum in the Division of Medical Ethics in the Department of Medicine. He remains a member of the Institutional Review Board Committee on Human Rights in Research. He is now concluding his eighth year as Editor in Chief of the J*ournal of Religion and Health,* which continues to grow. He has been appointed to a second term as a member of the Board for Professional Medical Conduct for the State of New York and is in his second year as Chair of the Commission on Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. In the 2017-2018 academic year he presented on panels at Weill Cornell Medical College, NYU, and Harvard. He is actively pursing the writing of a personal memoir.

Dagmar Herzog, Ph.D., is Distinguished Professor of History and Daniel Rose Faculty Scholar at the Graduate Center, where she teaches courses in European History and historical theory and methodology. Her *Cold War Freud: Psychoanalysis in an Age of Catastrophes* has just appeared in paperback - and an interview with her about the book can be heard on her faculty webpage. The special issue of the journal *Psychoanalysis and History* on psychoanalysis in the Middle East is imminent (2018), and her book, *Unlearning Eugenics: Sexuality, Reproduction and Disability in Post-Nazi Europe,* will also be out in November 2018. She just delivered a lecture in Berlin at the occasion of the 150th anniversary of early LGBT

activist Magnus Hirschfeld's birth. She continues to work on the translation into English of the radical Swiss psychoanalyst Fritz Morgenthaler's counterculture classic of 1978, *Technique: On the Dialectics of Psychoanalytical Practice*, for Routledge, as well as to coedit an anthology, *The Routledge Companion to Sexuality and Colonialism.*

Anne Golomb Hoffman, Ph.D., developed a new interdisciplinary seminar with a Fordham colleague in genetics. Titled "Diverse Biology/Shared Humanity," the course draws on literature, theory, and science to address topics such as "Sexualities and Genders," "Group Identities: Race and Ethnicity," "The Brain, Personality, and Mental Disorder," and "Disability, Civil Rights, and Identity."

Siri Hustvedt, Ph.D., finished a novel, *Memories of the Future,* that will be published by Simon & Schuster in March of 2019. In addition to this she traveled and lectured extensively, including appearances at literary festivals in Scotland, Denmark, England, and Poland, and on academic panels at Aarhus University (Denmark), the CUNY Grad Center (Deutsches Haus), New York University, and the Einstein Foundation (Berlin). Among her many speaking engagements, she delivered the closing keynote lecture at the the German Society of Psychosomatic Medicine in Berlin, and the keynote lecture at a conference on "Art, Film, Narrative and the Body-Brain," at Humboldt University, Berlin. She served on a defense committee at Columbia GSAS and continued to teach a seminar on narrative psychiatry at Weill Cornell. Presently, Dr. Hustvedt is writing a memoir that explores the fragility of memory and the problem of the self through the lenses of several disciplines.

Nathan Kravis, M.D., is the Associate Director of the Institute for the History of Psychiatry and an Associate Editor of the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*. His book, *On the Couch: A Repressed History of the Analytic Couch,* was published in October 2017 and translated into German in April 2018. He lectured in Philadelphia, Boston, and at the Parsons School of Design in New York.

George Makari, M.D., is the Director of Cornell's DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry and Professor of Psychiatry at Weill Medical College. This past year he served as the plenary speaker to the International Psychohistorical Association Conference, delivered the Emmanuel Windholz Memorial Lecture to the San Francisco Center for Psychoanalysis, and participated in a roundtable on "Mind Matters: Past, Present, and Future," at the Helix Center. In addition to research, teaching, and writing, Dr. Makari directs the Payne Whitney Outpatient Psychotherapy Clinic and maintains an active psychiatric practice.

Robert Michels, M.D., delivered Professors' Rounds throughout the year, taught the PGY-II "Diagnosis in Psychiatry" course, and the PGY-IV Continuous Case Seminar. Dr. Michels spoke on a panel titled "On Being a Medical School Dean and Psychiatrist" at the Annual Meeting of the Benjamin Rush Society in St. Petersburg, Florida. He was a discussant at the American Psychoanalytic Association's Scientific Paper Prize presentation at the Association's 2018 National Meet-

ing, participated in "Rethinking the Death Instinct: Bob Michels and Jonathan House in discussion with Joel Whitebook" at the Association for Psychoanalytic Medicine, and gave a talk on "Sex, Love and Passion" at the American Psychiatric Association's Annual Meeting in New York. He chaired a panel titled "How Psychoanalysis Changes us: The Effect of Psychoanalysis on both Patient and Analyst" at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, and presented "Samuel Abrams on 'The Publication of Clinical Facts'" as part of the "Symposium in Honor of the Work of Samuel Abrams, M.D.," co-sponsored by the Institute for Psychoanalytic Education and the Psychoanalytic Association of New York. Dr. Michels also presented a Grand Rounds titled "The Evolution of Psychodynamic Psychotherapy, Part II" at Zucker Hillside Hospital—Northwell Health in Glen Oaks, NY.

Orna Ophir, Ph.D., was trained as a clinical psychologist and holds a Ph.D. in history from the Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas at Tel Aviv University, Israel. In 2017, she joined the faculty of the Gallatin School of Individualized Studies and the Department of Comparative Literature, both at New York University. She also joined the Faculty of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Education affiliated with the NYU Medical School, where she is a member of the Curriculum Committee and the Curriculum Revision Committee. She is serving on the IPA committee on the History of Psychoanalysis and is on the organizing committee of its Berlin 2020 congress celebrating 100 years of the Berlin Institute and the Eitingon Training Model. She is also on the organizing committee of the ISPS-Israel 2018 conference on Schizophrenia and Loneliness. She participated in "The Appearance and Avoidance of Childhood," an international workshop at Johns Hopkins University. She is currently working on two book projects for which she received two book contracts this year: *Schizophrenia: The End of a Diagnosis* (forthcoming from Polity Press in 2019) and *Klein in America: The Migration of Melanie Klein's Thought and Legacy to the US* (forthcoming from Routledge Publishers in 2020). Ophir is the coordinator of the Richardson Seminar at the IHP. She is a psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City.

Camille Robcis, **Ph.D.,** is Associate Professor of History and French at Columbia University. After ten years of teaching at Cornell University, she joined the faculty at Columbia this summer. She has been working on her forthcoming book: *Disalienation: Politics, Philosophy, and Radical Psychiatry in France,* which traces the history of institutional psychotherapy, a movement born in France after the Second World War. Anchored in Marxism and in Lacanian psychoanalysis, institutional psychotherapy advocated a radical restructuring of the asylum in order to transform the theory and practice of psychiatric care. Institutional psychotherapy shaped various psychotic clinics throughout the world and had an important influence on many intellectuals and activists, including François Tosquelles, Frantz Fanon, Jean Oury, Félix Guattari, Georges Canguilhem, and Michel Foucault. She presented some of this research last spring in Berlin at the Institute for Cultural Inquiry, and in Barcelona at the Fundació Tàpies.

Paul E. Stepansky, Ph.D., continues to work on a book about the American and Canadian nurses who served on the Western Front during World War I. It is

tentatively titled, *Gallants! The American Nurses of World War I and the Birth of Modern Nursing Practice*.

Nirav Soni, Ph.D., has attended the Richardson Seminar since 2013 and was recently appointed Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College. As a member of the faculty of the Institute for the History of Psychiatry, he is working with Len Groopman to advise the first year Rush Fellows. He is a third year candidate at the Columbia Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. Last year he presented a paper titled "Why the Wolf Man: On the Continued Relevance of *From the History of an Infantile Neurosis to Psychoanalytic Education*" during the meetings of the American Psychoanalytic Association at a panel devoted to the centenary anniversary of Freud's case history. He maintains a private practice in midtown Manhattan.



J.H. Belter, *tête-à-tête*, c. 1850-1860.

Alumni News

Daniel Burston, Ph.D., (fellow 1985-1986), published numerous papers and encyclopedia entries, including "Wooden Ships: Cultural Cohesion and Continuity in Freud and Erikson," in *Free Associations: Psychoanalysis and Culture, Groups, Media and Politics* (December 2017), and "Psychiatry and Anti-Psychiatry: History, Rhetoric and Reality," in *Eidos: A Journal of Philosophy and Culture*, special issue on "Respect for Insanity," edited by Zofia Rozinska (Issue 2, Volume 4, 2018). He also delivered the keynote address at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Cheiron Society for the History of the Behavioral Sciences at the University of Akron on June 23, 2018. The title was "Dust and Fog, Fire and Salt: Karl Stern's Émigre Experience in London and Montreal."

Eric J. Engstrom, Ph.D., (fellow 2000-2001), continued research for a book about forensic politics and culture in Imperial Berlin. He also presented two scholarly papers. The first was a Grand Rounds presentation on "Reassessing Emil Kraepelin (1856-1926): Reflections on an Historical Research Project" in the Department of Psychiatry at Virginia Commonwealth University. The second lecture on "Appropriating Psychiatric Legacies: Historiographic Reflections on Wilhelm Griesinger (1817-1868)" was held at Queen Mary University in London as part of a workshop on "Faith in Reform: Anniversaries, Memory and the Asylum in International Historical Perspective." Dr. Engstrom also published two articles. One appeared in the *American Journal of Psychiatry* with Kenneth Kendler on "Criticisms of Kraepelin's Psychiatric Nosology: 1896-1927." The other article on "Race, Alcohol and General Paralysis: Emil Kraepelin's Comparative Psychiatry and His Trips to Java (1904) and North America (1925)" appeared in *History of Psychiatry* (Issue 3, Volume 29, 2018). He has also finished work on the ninth and final volume of Emil Kraepelin's correspondence.

Benjamin Rush Scholars

Kristopher Kast, M.D., is a PGY-IV and Chief Resident in Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine. He is a current Benjamin Rush Fellow working with Dr. Theodore Shapiro, his faculty mentor. His focus is on the history of the psychiatric interview and the varied factors shaping its structure, process, and content in the 20th century. He has done prior work in the history of madness and medical writing (specifically the genre of case histories) in 18th-century England while a medical student at Johns Hopkins. Additional academic interests include psychoanalysis and addiction. He is beginning the first year of psychoanalytic training at Columbia this year, and will enter a fellowship in addiction psychiatry at the joint Harvard/Partners HealthCare (MGH-McLean-Brigham) program in Boston next year.

Ben Scherban, M.D., is a PGY-II resident in Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine. He is beginning the Benjamin Rush Fellowship with a year of reading in the general history of psychiatry. His current interests include the evolution of psychiatric nosology as well as the ethics of mental health treatment.



"Récamier" sofa, attributed to the workshop of Duncan Phyfe, c. 1810-1820.

Research Faculty Publications

Brown, EM. (2018). François Leuret: the last moral therapist. *History of psychiatry*, 29(1), 38-48.

Colombo, D. (2018). 'Blowing Up' The Frame: Revisiting Arlow's 'Fantasy, Memory and Reality Testing.' P*sychoanalytic Quarterly*, 87(1): 149-158.

Esman, A. (2017). Review of Alessandra Lemma and Paul Lynch. *Sexualities: Contemporary Psychoanalytic Perspectives. Psychoanalytic Quarterly* 86: 741-743.

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Friedman, RA. (2018). Overcoming tribalism. *Psychiatric Services*, 69(9): 946-947.

_____, Suicide Rates Are Rising. What Should We Do About It? *The New York Times,* June 11, 2018.

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Frosch, W. (2018). Book Review: Marketing an Epidemic*: Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic*, by Sam Quinones, *The FASEB Journal*, 32: 1123–1124.

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Louis XIV-style beechwood daybed, Sweden, eighteenth century.

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Pablo Picasso, *Nu couché*, 1942.

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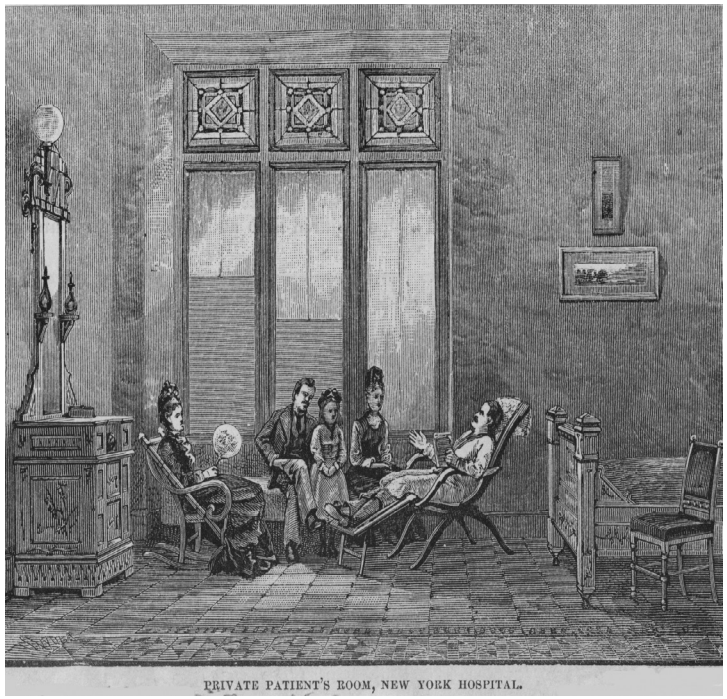
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Private patient's room, The New York Hospital, illustration by W.P. Syder, *Harper's Magazine,* 1878.

Department of Psychiatry
Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College
of Cornell University
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525 East 68th Street, Box 140
New York, New York 10065-4897
(212) 746-3727

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